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February 26, 2001 LB 270

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to amend.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers. Senator Beutler, you're recognized on your amendment.

CLERK: Senator Beutler, AM0693. (Legislative Journal page 789.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: AM0693 is a short amendment. Under the bill as it currently is, the maximum licensing fee for a acupuncture license is \$300. If you maximize that fee...it's a fee range with a maximum of \$300. If you maximize that fee, in the second year you don't come up with enough money to pay for the licensing process out of the fees. And so what this amendment does is to put acupuncture under another category so that the fee range is between \$100 and \$600 so that they can make a fee that is...that is necessary in order to cover their cost of licensing. I think for all of these different licensings, the theory that we've applied in the Appropriations Committee and fiscally, generally, is to be sure that the fees are high enough to cover on down the line the cost of licensing, which makes sense. In this particular case, the cost of licensing comes up about a thousand dollars short in the second year and, quite honestly, we don't know how it will go in the future. And because we never quite know how things will go in the future, that's one reason that we give the department the authority of a fee range in order to set the fee appropriately to simply cover the costs. But in this case if you set the fee at \$300 where it is now, you will not be able to cover the cost of the second year out, and maybe not into the future. And so it seemed to me to simply make sense to give them a little more authority and allow them to make whatever adjustment was necessary in order to cover the costs in the future. That's all this amendment does. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on AM0693 to LB 270. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Senator Beutler talked to me about this amendment earlier